

# SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

## Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

### February, 2002

*This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Fourth Essex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.*

### Residents of Fourth Essex Representative District

#### **Treatment Admissions:**

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.2% (309) reside in the Fourth Essex Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (58) of Fourth Essex Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 77.4% of admissions from the Fourth Essex Representative District were male and 22.7% were female.
- Over 49.2% of admissions were between the ages of 21-39.
- 91.9% of admissions were white non-Latino, 3.2% were black non-Latino, 2.3% were Latino, 0.7% were Asian, and 1.9% were other racial categories.
- 59.2% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 20.1% were married, and 15.5% reported not to be married now.
- 20.4% of admissions had less than high school education, 43.4% completed high school, and 36.3% had more than high school education.
- 48.2% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 7.8% of those admitted were homeless.
- 11.3% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

#### **Substances Used in Past Year:**

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Fourth Essex Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

<b>Table 1</b> <b>Annual Admissions by Substance Used</b> <b>FY 1995 – FY 2001</b>							
<b>Fourth Essex Representative District</b>							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
<b>FY '95</b>	269	221	76	45	27	40	28
<b>FY '96</b>	264	234	84	43	24	37	34
<b>FY '97</b>	274	231	104	54	36	54	38
<b>FY '98</b>	312	247	94	56	33	96	78
<b>FY '99</b>	231	193	70	46	22	64	59
<b>FY '00</b>	298	252	92	48	12	68	50
<b>FY '01</b>	309	261	88	54	20	60	45

- Since dropping in FY 1999, residents of Fourth Essex Representative District reported an increase in alcohol, marijuana and cocaine use.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting heroin use increased by 50%, while crack use decreased by 25%.

**Primary Substance of Use:**

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Fourth Essex Representative District.

<b>Table 2</b> <b>Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001</b>					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	64.1%	18.1%	10.4%	2.3%	2.3%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While heroin, cocaine and crack as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was lower than the State average, alcohol and marijuana was higher within your District.